

Reported Graduation Rates

Name (how reported)		Notes
Virginia On-Time Graduation Rate <i>Published for first time in fall 2008 on School Report Card and available on VDOE Web site</i> ACTUAL RATE	$\frac{\text{On-time Diploma Graduates in Year X}}{[(\# \text{ of 1st time entering 9th graders in Year X} - 4) + (\text{Transfers in}) - (\text{Transfers out \& deceased})]}$	Actual graduation rate based on four years of longitudinal student-level data that takes into consideration student mobility, changes in student enrollment, policy and instructional practices such as 9th-grade retention, while recognizing that some students are allowed more than the standard four years to earn a diploma and are still counted as “on-time” graduates.
Virginia Unadjusted Graduation Rate <i>Published in Table 5 of the Superintendent’s Annual Report</i> ESTIMATED RATE	$\frac{\text{All Diploma Graduates in Year X}}{\text{9th-grade Membership in Year X} - 4}$	The number of graduates (includes Standard, Advanced Studies, Modified Standard & Special diplomas) in a given year divided by the number of 9th graders four years earlier.
Virginia No Child Left Behind (NCLB) Graduation Rate <i>Published in the School Report Card & used for AYP</i> ESTIMATED RATE	$\frac{\text{Standard \& Advanced Studies Diploma Graduates in Year X}}{\text{All Diploma Graduates \& Completers in Year X} + (\text{12th-grade Dropouts for Year X}) + (\text{11th-grade Dropouts for Year X} - 1) + (\text{10th-grade Dropouts for Year X} - 2) + (\text{9th-grade Dropouts for Year X} - 3)}$	For NCLB purposes, only graduates earning Standard and Advanced Studies diplomas are counted in the numerator. Denominator includes all graduates and completers plus dropouts reported annually for “cohort.”
Averaged Freshman Graduation Rate <i>Calculated by the National Center for Educational Statistics (NCES)</i> ESTIMATED RATE	$\frac{\text{All Diploma Graduates in Year X}}{[(\text{8th-grade Membership in Year X} - 5) + (\text{9th-grade Membership in Year X} - 4) + (\text{10th-grade Membership in Year X} - 3)] \div 3}$	Average of 9th-grade enrollment during Year X – 4 and 8th-grade enrollment during Year X – 5 used in the denominator as a proxy for first-time 9th graders during Year X – 4. (More students are retained in the 9th grade than any other, making this the largest grade and creating what is referred to as the “9th-grade bulge.”)
Cumulative Promotion Index <i>Published by Education Week in its annual Diploma Counts report</i> ESTIMATED RATE	$\frac{\text{10th Graders Year X}}{\text{9th Graders Year X} - 1} \times \frac{\text{11th Graders Year X}}{\text{10th Graders Year X} - 1} \times \frac{\text{12th Graders Year X}}{\text{11th Graders Year X} - 1} \times \frac{\text{Spring Graduates Year X}}{\text{12-Grade Fall Membership Year X}}$	Estimated high school promotion rates for Year X are multiplied to produce an estimated graduation rate that does not account for 9th-grade retention.